Dear parents and carers

Welcome to your last regular update email from me before the Christmas break.  As a reminder, the last day of term for students is Thursday 15th December with the usual finish time.  This is the only time of year where college is fully shut down so there will be no student services available during this time.  College re-opens for the start of term 2 on Tuesday 3rd January 2023.

Here are the messages we are sharing with students during this last week of term:

**Attendance**

We have had a real focus on attendance this last half term as there is clear evidence  of the impact of good attendance on educational achievement. As a college our attendance target is 95%. You will be able to see your young person’s attendance through pro-portal – ask them to show you. I’d like to take this opportunity to remind you that we do not allow or agree to taking students out of college for a week or more during term time and we ask your for your support here by not booking holidays, family visits here or abroad or even family occasions which take several days out of the student’s education.  As this will not be authorised, any  sustained absence for such reasons will mean that your young person will have to catch up independently. There is no expectation from teachers to spend time on their return supporting them to catch up and there is no facility for online lessons. I thank you for your understanding and support with this.

**Computers and lap tops at college**

We have been reminding students that they must log out of any computer before shutting it down; otherwise, they will not be able to log into any other computer on site.

**Maths and English GCSE**

For all students who took GCSE resits in November, the results will be published on Thursday 13th January at 8am.  Students will be emailed details of how to access their results but in summary, it is through the portal:

* They either click on the MyDay tile “Your Exam information” or click on the following link [https://portal.mis.nelsongroup.ac.uk/Page/U\_LearnerExams](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fportal.mis.nelsongroup.ac.uk%2FPage%2FU_LearnerExams&data=05%7C01%7CPaul.Gallagher%40NelsonGroup.ac.uk%7Cdfaf5fac216d42bd560f08dadc2b4f76%7Cec8185ce4f05448b828746c0185766e2%7C0%7C0%7C638064375823290081%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=f9fxXWbj7mdNdMNPB%2Fenk9D%2FcJ9ssJCBIuFe4CpZ8oA%3D&reserved=0)
* They log in by entering your college email address and college password.

**Stonewall School and College Champion Scheme**

I wanted to update you regarding our move in becoming part of the Stonewall School and College Champions scheme, which has been designed to support organisations like ourselves to continue to be as inclusive as possible and ensure we are best equipped to provide a safe space for all our learners, where they can discover who they are without judgement or prejudice.

*So what does this mean for your young person?*

By joining this scheme we are working towards the Stonewall Gold Award which benchmarks our LGBTQ+ inclusion work against national best practice. Our staff will have access to online training, exclusive education resources and year-round support from a team of experts, all designed to ensure we can best support LGBTQ+ children and young people, celebrate diversity, develop our policies and educate on the impacts of homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying. As we journey through this certification process I have no doubt that we will be asking for your young person’s support to further enhance our practices, and to share the things they have learned through tutorial sessions and wider college events, with yourselves and out in the wider community, after all it is only through being allies of the LGBTS+ community that we can really bring about change in wider society.

We are dedicated to the well-being of all our learners, and see this accreditation process as just one small part of all we are doing to ensure that all learners continue to feel part of the Nelson and Colne College Group family.

That’s all for this half term. For your information, you will receive your young person’s half termly progress report immediately after the Christmas break.  If you have any questions about that, please contact your tutor in the first instance. May I take this opportunity to wish you a happy Christmas.

Kind regards,

Fionnuala.

**Morag Davis**IAssistant Principal for Technical Curriculum,
Centre Principal, Accrington and Rossendale College
**Nelson and Colne College Group**